



Program

Commodore Computer Club

Volume 10

Number 9

September 1993

Presidents Thoughts!

Over the past several months I have begged, pleaded and all but threatened bodily harm if we didn't do something to help raise money for the library. As of this date still not one red penny has gone to the library to aid us in purchasing up to date programs. I don't know what else can be done to emphasize that this is important for the future of our club, so guess it is just about useless to continue the fight if other club members are not interested. I am not going to be an old 'I told you so' at some future date when the club is adversely effected to the extent that it really is one more nail in the coffin in which our club will be buried. It isn't worth the effort to continue preaching, begging, etc., to try and get the attention of people who are emerged in their own world of the AMIGA, IBM

compatibles, etc., which are clearly superior to our little eight bit machine. The world is not going to end if we don't bolster our library and the sun will come up tomorrow regardless of what we do or don't do. I will have some final words to say in this regard at our next meeting, then I will keep my mouth shut. I am sure there are plenty of you out there reading these thoughts who are sighing and saying "good, glad to hear it!"

Check out whats Inside

This month we will start an informative series on GEOS. This can be found on page 4 and 5.

Amiga Thoughts, finances and editors notes are located on page 2.

The Secretary's Report will be located on page 3 along with a flyer about ComputerFest '93.

To find out what's happening with Commodore, check out an interesting bit of information on page 6.

Need to print some labels, on page 7 is an article by Byron Wilke of the Fayetteville AR Group with some helpful hints using GEOS to print them.

Club information can be found on page 7 also.

If you're reading this, check out the meeting info. on the left.

Meeting Information

Date: September 13, 1993

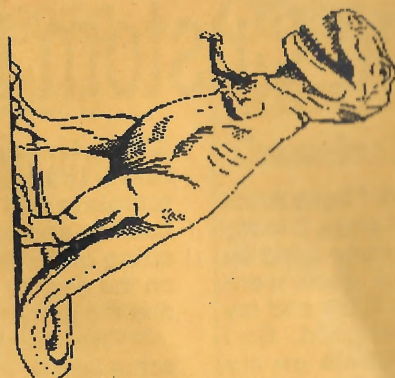
Time: 7:00 PM

Place: O.G.&E. Service Center,
7200 Highway 45 (Across from
Hiram Walker)

Demo: The demo for the 64/128
will be announced. Steve will
bring the Amiga set-up and
demo his GVP A530Turbo.

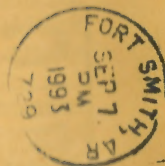
Be there, we need your input.

Program
Commodore Computer Club
P.O. Box 6000
Fort Smith, AR 72906-6000



Drive Careful, Schools Back
in Session.
Newsletter Deadline for Oct.
will be September 27th 1993

9312
Donald Morton
106 Sterling Ct.
Fort Smith, AR 72903



Amiga Thoughts

By Steve Caperton

If You haven't seen the GVP A530 Turbo for the Amiga 500 yet you have really missed something. This unit effectively speeds the 500 to Amiga 3000 speeds or better. You also receive a hard disk, SCSI port, Ram expansion, (up to 8 megs), an expansion slot, and a Math Co-Processor slot. The unit also comes with a Turbo switch and it's own power supply. The part I like best is the ease of install. Just plug the unit into the left side of the keyboard and plug the power

in, it's that simple! I found that some of the 2.0 disk utilities will not recognize the A530 disk SCSI port but GVP supplies a disk of utilities to replace them. This unit runs at a blazing 40MHZ clock speed and uses true 32 bit DMA (Direct Memory Access) when possible. All in all, I believe it is one of the best computer upgrades available for the price, which is about \$600.00 for the unit hard drive and 1 meg of ram.

On another note if you are not attending one of the Amiga meetings on the second Monday of the month at OG&E or the second Saturday of the month at Microtronix maybe you should consider.

See You at the meetings.

Finances

Commodore Computer Club
Financial Statement
August 31, 1993

INCOME RECEIVED:

Membership.....	\$ 0.00
Library.....	0.00

Total Deposit	\$ 0.00
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DISBURSMENTS:

Postage.....	\$ 0.00
Telephone.....	0.00

Total Disbursements	\$ 0.00
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Beginning Cash.....	\$165.12
Inc/Dec in Cash.....	0.00
Ending Cash.....	\$165.12

BREAKDOWN:

General.....	\$152.02
BBS.....	13.10

Total	\$165.12
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James Dill August 31, 1993

Editor's Notes

Be sure and attend the next meeting, we will be discussing the upcoming ComputerFest which we hope will be well represented by the Commodore Group.

I have put a lot of programs on my A530 Turbo and am still quite amazed at the speed. When I first turn on my power to the equipment, in ten seconds or less, my Workbench Screen is up and I am ready to run. I haven't had time to do a complete speed study from disk drive but from the Hard Drive, here are some times to get some of the programs going: PageStream (4 Sec), Kindword, Jr-Comm, Fusion Paint, Proper Grammer, Bankn, (2 Secs.) Pelican Press (3 sec), and DiskMaster (1 sec). I will get some times from floppy and publish them later.

Check out the articles on GEOS, I have a few months typed up ahead and will try and put two in each months PROGRAM -30-

Secretary's Report

By Steve Caperton

Commodore Computer Club
General Minutes 08/09/93.

The General meeting of the Commodore Computer Club Of Fort Smith met Monday, August 9, 1993 in the OG&E Service center 7200 Highway 45. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Steve Caperton who was standing in for President Kenny French.

James Dill gave the financial report.

Tom Goins mentioned that he had purchased an A530 accelerator expansion for his Amiga 500, that boosts his processing speed to 40mhz. Tom stated that the newsletter deadline would be August 30. Tom also mentioned that any member could get 1/8 of a page of commercial advertisement free in the newsletter. Anyone wishing to place an AD, etc. should contact Tom Goins.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 P.M. then everyone broke into SIG groups. There were 22 people present at the meeting.

Commodore Computer Club
Executive minute's 08/09/93.

The meeting was called to order by Steve Caperton at the OG&E service center 7200 Highway 45. Steve ask if there was any new business.

James Dill made a motion to table any business until next month due to the lack of officers. Steve Caperton seconded and the motion carried.

ComputerFest '93

Coming This Fall!
Saturday, October 23rd
Where:

On the lower level of the Fullerton Union on the West Ark Campus.

Exhibitors Scheduled To Attend:

Apple Computer Inc., Bedford
Camera & Video, D-Best
Computers, Better Business
Computing, ComputerLand, And
More!

Door Prizes!
Flea Market Space!
Computer Demonstrations!
Users Group Displays!
Free Admission!!!
Registration Required To Be
Eligible For Door Prizes

Sponsored By:

Arkansas Apple II And Macintosh
Users Group (AAAMUG)

Additional Sponsors:

Don Moore Signs, Donrey Media
Group, Weldon Williams & Lick,
Graphics Place, Focus
Enhancements, Independent
Macintosh Computer Services
(IMCS)

For Information to be an Exhibitor
or reserve Flea Market Space call
Ken at (501) 484-7018

Looking At GEOS

By Mark Mcinnis

The idea behind this column is to help you use your GEOS program and to get the most from it. Also if you are having problems or want to do something a little out of the ordinary, perhaps these subjects can be addressed in this space in the future. Keep in mind that I am not an expert but with all the experience that is in the club, perhaps an answer can be found.

Let's get those GEOS disks out and get the program up and running. This writer uses a stock 128 and two 1541II disk drives operating in the 64 mode. I use GEOS 64 as I bought GEOS 2.0 when I owned a 64. This set up is about as basic as you can get with GEOS.

The first thing you must do with GEOS before you try anything else is to "install" GEOS. This means preparing the applications for everyday use. Step 1 is to boot GEOS. Insert the system disk into your disk drive and type LOAD "GEOS",8,1. The manual cautions never to boot GEOS with more than one drive on. More about multiple drives in a future column. For now, keep it simple. The reason for the "installation" process is due to copy protection schemes. All your applications are keyed to your system disk and yours alone. Have you ever wondered why you have trouble with that application a friend gave you?

After GEOS has finished booting a message box (dialog Box) should appear asking you to "Please insert disk: Back up system." From this point it should just be a matter of following directions or choices presented by the dialog boxes. The manual gives the impression that an application that has been "installed"

to someone else's system disk can still be installed or keyed to your system disk.

Step 2: Activate your mouse, koala pad or inkwell light pen. A joystick is the default input device and does not have to be activated. Hold down the Commodore key and the letter "I" to get the dialog box needed to select an input device. Use the cursor key to choose an input device and hit "Return" to select.

Step 3: Install your applications. An application is a program that operates GEOS. Examples of applications are Geowrite, Geopaint, Geospell, Geomerge, Text Grabber and Paint Drivers. An application must be "installed" before it can be used. To start the installation process, close the system disk and open the disk entitled applications. Select an application and double click on the file icon to open the file. Shortly you should get a dialog box telling you the application has been installed. Close the file and proceed to the next application and repeat the process. At this point you will have a user friendly, I can do almost anything program or you will be up that familiar creek without a spoon. Should you wind up in the latter situation, do not use your GEOS disk for frisby practice with the dog. Shut everything down, take a break and try the process again later. As a last resort you can call one of your friendly, will to help club members.

Next month we will continue with the use of GEOS. In the meantime install your applications to a work disk and be ready to go.

(Since Mark runs GEOS on a daily basis, I asked him to write a monthly column for us walking through the steps to make a successful operation of GEOS. This article will run every month on a progressive basis. Editor (Memphis Commodore Users Club, Memphis, TN))

(Article #2 in the Series)

By Mark Mcinnis

Hopefully by now all of us have working copies of GEOS 2.0. The next step in the process is to make back-up copies of GEOS Master disks. Step 1 is to format a disk. This procedure varies little depending on your drive configuration. First open the system disk to its desk top, then click on the disk menu and then select the format menu item. From this point it should be a matter of following the screen prompts. On a 3 1/2 inch disk open the System disk to its desk top, click on the disk drives icon. You should have have an error message stating the disk is not formatted. Click "OK" and follow the prompts.

Step 2: Make the back-up. Copy your GEOS Master disks onto the disks you formatted. As usual your disk drive set up will determine the method of copying. A notation in the manual states that you cannot copy the System or Back-up System disk. This is true in the world of GEOS, however your System or Back-up System disk can be copied with Maverick 5.0. Get a copy of Maverick 5.0 that includes the parameter disks or see someone in your local user group if you are having a problem with your System disk or the installation process. Files that can be copied with from your system include: Desk Top 2.0, Configure 2.0, Disk Copy, Paint Drivers, Q-Boot, the desk accessories and the printer drivers.

Double click on the Disk Copy program file icon and follow the directions that are presented on the screen. A double click is two strikes of the fire button in rapid succession. Two slow clicks on an icon will get you a "ghost icon" that can be moved around the desk top screen. One click on an icon will select that file for viewing, copying, deleting etc.. If you are using

multiple drives the "all pages" command from the select menu is useful for transferring multiple files. The "Reset" command from the options menu will enable GEOS to recognize the disk in the other drive.

Once you have made your back-ups, place write protect tabs on your masters and store them in a safe place. Keep in mind that we are covering a lot of ground in a limited space and some of those odd problems or questions that arise need personal responses. Feel free to contact one of the club members and I feel that we can talk the problem out.

On to printers. In 1988 when my GEOS 2.0 manual was copyrighted over 70 printers were supported. A few more are probably supported by now. Personally speaking, I feel that your computer system is not complete without a printer. For a printer to work in GEOS, there must be a "printer driver" file on your active disk. "Printer Drivers" are found on the System Disk. In order to transfer a printer driver to your work disk you need to slow double click on the driver of your choice and move the resulting ghost icon to the screen boarder off the desktop. Close the system disk and open your work disk. The ghost icon for the printer should be on the boarder of your screen. At this point transfer the driver file back onto the desktop and you should be good to go.

GEOS can be a funny animal. Have you ever wondered why a file on the desktop cannot be accessed? GEOS accesses the first so many files on the desktop and the files further back on the desktop are like excess baggage. They can be used, but they must be moved to the front of the desktop to be used. Remember to keep the files you are going to use the most at the front end of the desktop.

(Memphis Commodore Users Club, Memphis, TN)

What's Happening With Commodore Business Machines?

Date:
5 Aug 1993 09:53:09 GMT

Edited from the recent conference
on Quantumlink, with Fred Bowen,
senior engineer at CBM:

<<quote>>

Tech100733: Thanks/ I have
to ask this of the senior Tech, the
rumor is that we're about to lose
CBM, is this true?

Fred Bowen: Well, CBM has
been in the news a bit lately,
losing a few bucks and shedding
employees. But there is still
plenty of optimism that things will
turn around before long. CBM
goes through this sort of thing
every 7 or 8 years it seems. The
last big layoffs were about a year
after the 128 came out. This time,
things are worse than before, but
then all the PC guys are going
through the same thing.

RidgeRunr: Fender Tucker
of Loadstar supposedly posted a
message in the latest LoadStar
issue that he spoke by phone to
someone at CBM and was told
that the C64 was not being
produced and no longer supported
here in the US, but was being
done in Europe. What do you
know of that statement, true, false,
misconstrued??? /end.

Fred Bowen: A little of both.
The C64 will continue to be sold
by CBM in Europe and probably
elsewhere, but not in the US.
There is an agreement with
Software Hut to handle refurbis,
software and hardware issues,
including selling C64's (and 128's
I believe) in limited numbers.

Classifieds

MICRO*TRONIX

Commodore Sales and Service

Amiga * Atari * PC-10's
Leading Edge PC's
Star & Okidata printers
Desktop Video
Desktop Publishing
Citizen Printers
Software * 10% off * Software
501-782-4048
1614 Towson
Fort Smith, Ar 72901

RidgeRunr: So Software Hut
is the definitive source in the US
for now for C64's??

Fred Bowen: I also heard
that a Maryland company, SMG
(Service Management Group),
just opened a branch near West
Chester, PA and hired a few of
the CBM service people that were
recently laid off. They will be
handling some of the C64/128
support too. All in all, a pretty
good run for the ol' 64.

Fred Bowen: Although I'm
sure this will bode poorly for a lot
of avid 8-bitters, nothing has
really changed all that much... in
fact, this probably means a little
BETTER support than you've
been seeing lately. The estimates
are there are still some 3 million
C64's still in use in the US.

Fred Bowen:<whew!> Oh,
BTW- the number I had for
Software Hut is 215-586-5701.
Philadelphia, PA. I also assume
TPUG (and perhaps FOG) is still
active, too.

<<end quote>>

(From Front Range Commodore
Club, Aug/Sep 1993)

Printing Custom Labels

by Byron Wilke

For many years I have wrote
on a blank label and stuck it to my
new disk. I did the same thing on
my disk boxes. The labels were
sometimes different sizes and my
printing was not that good. So I
decided to print labels on my
printer. I looked at a few label
programs and decided they were
all good but not quite what I
wanted to do. So I decided to do
the labels using GEOS. Since I
do not know of a label program
specifically for GEOS, I chose
GEOPaint.

I had to paint my labels on a
Paint page spaced just exactly
right. So I made two Master
Templates on a GEOPaint page.
One GEOPaint template was for
horizontal labels for disks, and the
other Paintpage was for vertical

labels for my disk boxes. The
lines that are drawn on the
template will print on the label
backing and not on the label. The
sizing of the template will depend
on the density of the printer in use
and the printer driver used.

Now when I want to make
some labels, I make a copy of the
template to another paint page
and paste whatever graphics I
need and type whatever info I can
fit into the label "box area."

The horizontal labels for
disks are easy to print. To print
the vertical labels, I had to tape
some blank labels sideways to a
blank sheet of paper. I tried to
rotate the vertical labels so they
would be printed sideways, but I
made a mess of it.

(The Expansion Port, August
1993, Fayetteville, AR)

Club Information

PROGRAM is a monthly publication of the
Commodore Computer Club of Fort Smith, Arkansas.
Subscription rate \$7.00 yearly (no charge to club
members or exchange with other clubs). Articles
pertaining to any aspect of computer use are solicited
from members. Such articles may be uploaded to the
bulletin board with appropriate notification via E-Mail
to "Editor Editor" or may be submitted on disk as a
text file. Articles in writing are also welcome.

ADVERTISING RATES

Ad Size	1/month	6/month	1/year
1/8 page	\$ 6.00	\$ 32.00	\$ 57.00
1/4 page	\$10.00	\$ 54.00	\$ 90.00
1/2 page	\$18.00	\$ 96.00	\$173.00
ONE page	\$30.00	\$160.00	\$288.00

MEMBERS are entitled to 1/8 page of free
non-commercial advertising per month.
NON-PROFIT organizations receive a 50 %
discount on advertising.

MEMBERSHIP RATES

\$12.00 Yearly for individuals \$17.00 Yearly for
families Membership includes access to library at
club rates.

BBS PHONE NUMBER

(501) 646-3399

CLUB OFFICERS:

President	Kenneth French	675-3822
Vice-President		
Secretary	Steve Caperton	452-6858
Treasurer	James Dill	452-8251
Sysop	Dale Lawson	646-8603
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Librarian	David West	
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SAM'S Wholesale Club Coordinator: